

TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE GENNET

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and express thanks to Geraldine Gennet for her dedicated service as General Counsel of the House of Representatives.

Under the rules of the House, the Office of the General Counsel should provide legal advice and assistance to all Members of Congress, committees, officers, and employees without regard to political affiliation. Since her 1997 appointment by Speaker Newt Gingrich to lead that office, Ms. Gennet has dutifully fulfilled that obligation. Despite the unfortunate partisan tenor within Congress over the past 10 years, the Office of the General Counsel unfailingly has been a professional, non-partisan advocate for individuals across the ideological spectrum—this is a testament to Ms. Gennet and to her ability to place the long term interests of the institution before parochial concerns and partisanship.

In addition to providing general legal guidance to Members and staff on issues related to subpoenas, requests for information, and tort claims, Ms. Gennet also worked tirelessly to uphold the institutional privileges and immunities of the House of Representatives. Upon my election as Democratic Whip, I became a member of the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group, otherwise known as BLAG. This body is comprised of both Democratic and Republican leadership and is responsible for directing the Office of the General Counsel to file amicus briefs on behalf of the House of Representatives. During my work with BLAG, I had the opportunity to observe first-hand the deep respect Ms. Gennet has for the House of Representatives. Ms. Gennet is a firm believer in the separation of powers and in the speech or debate clause of the Constitution. When it may have been more expedient to relent on these issues, Ms. Gennet fought to preserve the powers and prerogatives of the Congress.

On behalf of myself and the members of my Caucus, I again want to extend my deepest thanks to Geraldine Gennet for her service and I wish her the best with her future endeavors.

WHAT MAKES NEBRASKA GREAT

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, today I rise not in honor of one person, but of many. Today I rise in honor of a small slice of what makes Nebraskans great.

When Gary Lindstrom, a farmer outside of Holdrege, Nebraska, was sidelined by a heart attack during harvest season, his neighbors and fellow Nebraskans showed what it truly means to be a community.

Farmers from Wilcox, Holdrege, Loomis, Ash Grove, Funk, and Ragan, eight combines, 12 grain cars and 20 trucks rallied to take care of a friend who was in need.

I think one of the volunteers, Wade Johnson of Holdrege, said it best when he said, "It's

what we all do when somebody needs some help. You help out."

I was touched by the generosity of the community. For Mr. Lindstrom, I thank everyone who lent a helping hand. And I thank all Nebraskans who come to the aid of their neighbors whenever and wherever it may be.

**HONORING ROBERT W. LEE ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS BEING
HONORED WITH THE INAUGURAL
BCA CHAIRMAN'S AWARD**

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and personal pleasure that I rise today to honor and congratulate Mr. Robert W. "Bubba" Lee for receiving the Business Council of Alabama (BCA) inaugural Chairman's Award for Leadership and Distinguished Service. Make no mistake, Mr. Lee is most deserving of this high honor; his dedication and service to the business community throughout Alabama has rightly earned him this prestigious award.

Bubba, as he is affectionately known to his family and friends, was honored with this award at the 2007 BCA Governmental Affairs Conference held earlier this year at the Grand Hotel in Point Clear, Alabama. A shining example of volunteer leadership, Bubba has always been known to go above and beyond in everything he does. He has devoted countless hours of his life to making Alabama a better place to live and work.

In recognizing him for this very special award, the Business Council of Alabama chose Bubba because he not only has given unselfishly of his time and resources to the Business Council, but he has also been invaluable to the organization as a leader, visionary, and advisor. Early on, Bubba was one of the original architects of BCA's political structure and the results have been obvious. Thanks in no small part to RCA's leadership over the past 21 years, Alabama has truly become a great place to do business.

Bubba served as chairman of the BCA board of directors from 1995–96 and as chairman of the board of directors of ProgressPAC, BCA's political action committee, from 1992–94. He remains a key member of BCA's Regional Advisory Committee 1.

Madam Speaker, I recognize Bubba today for not only his dedication to BCA but for his leadership at Vulcan, Inc. Serving as president of Vulcan, Inc. since 1986 and as CEO since 1996, Bubba has been—and continues to be—a solid leader in his professional career. A loving husband, father, and grandfather, as well as a leader in his church, Bubba Lee is a friend upon which you can always depend.

I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Bubba Lee for both the great success he has enjoyed in his life and his outstanding service to the city of Foley and the state of Alabama. I know his wife, Cheryl; his daughters, Martha Ann and Beth; his two granddaughters; and his many friends and colleagues are also proud of him. I wish Bubba and his entire family much health and success in the years ahead.

CONGRATULATING MR. JOE
LOUGHREY, PRESIDENT AND
COO, CUMMINS INC.

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joe Loughrey, who was recently honored for his contribution to business and social responsibility by the Ireland Chamber of Commerce at the American Celtic Ball, held annually in New York City.

As the grandson of an Irish immigrant, I am proud of Joe's Irish heritage and the important role it has played in his life. I also want to thank Joe for his work in support of technical and vocational education.

It also happens that Joe is president and chief operating officer of Cummins Inc., a very important company to the Sixth Congressional District of Indiana. Under Joe's leadership, Cummins has continued to take innovative steps from its headquarters in Columbus, Indiana, to build a skilled, robust workforce that is succeeding in the face of increasing global competition. In fact, Cummins has so much confidence in its local workforce initiatives and the quality of Hoosier workers that it has announced the location of a new light-duty diesel engine plant in Indiana when it could have been located elsewhere.

Joe joined Cummins in 1974 and has held a number of leadership roles in the company during his tenure. A Holyoke, Massachusetts, native and Columbus resident, Joe graduated from the University of Notre Dame in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in economics and African studies. He is a member of the board of the Cummins Foundation, the National Association of Manufacturers, Tower Automotive Inc., Sauer-Danfoss Inc. and the Columbus Learning Center Management Corp. He also serves on the Advisory Council for the College of Arts & Letters at the University of Notre Dame.

**HONORING THE LOUISIANA
HONORAIR VETERANS**

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 1, 2007

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On November 3, 2007 a group of 84 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home State of Louisiana to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit, they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our Nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.